GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4204
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2016
Accidents in Gas Pipeline Network
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the major accidents that occured in the existing gas pipeline network across the country during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the Government has formulated a definite policy for prevention of hazards to ensure that these pipelines have the capability to run safely; and

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken/being taken in this regard?

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Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a): Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD), under the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MoP&NG) has provided the list of major accidents that occurred in the existing gas pipeline network across the country during the last three years and the current year and the same is at Annexure-I.

(b) & (c): The Government has taken the following steps for prevention of hazards and improving the capability of these pipeline to run safely-

i. Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) under the PNGRB Act, 2006 has notified the relevant regulations for Technical Standards and Specifications including Safety Standards for Natural Gas Pipelines.

ii. The Petroleum & Mineral Pipelines (PMP) Act 1962 (revised in the year 2012) enacted for acquisition of Right of User in land (for laying pipelines for transport of petroleum & minerals including Natural gas) also prevents construction of building /structures, plantation of trees, excavation etc.

iii. Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD), under MoP&NG, has developed the standard on "Natural Gas Transmission Pipelines and City Gas Distribution Networks" (OISD-STD-226) for design, inspection, maintenance and operation of such pipelines in the year 2007 (revised in 2013) taking inputs from international standards ASME (American Society of Mechanical Engineers) and API (American Petroleum Institute) and learnings from the industry.

iv. The Chief Controller of Explosives, Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organization (PESO) is the Competent Authority under 'Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemical (MSIHC) Rules 1989' under the Environment Protection Act, 1986, Govt. of India, for granting approval of laying the pipelines for transportation of gas. The Chief Controller of Explosives, Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organization (PESO) is also the Competent Authority for granting approval for laying liquid hydrocarbon pipelines as per relevant provisions of the Petroleum Rules-2002.

v. Periodical technical & safety audits of the gas pipeline systems are conducted by PNGRB and OISD.

vi. Safety Audits are also carried out by independent external agencies and internal multidisciplinary teams to find out gaps, if any, and the recommendations are complied within a time bound manner.

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